

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A transcription management system, comprising:

5 a central file system for storing a plurality of documents, each of said plurality of documents being stored in only one of at least two folders in said central file system based at least in part on a respective status of said plurality of documents;

a content indexing module operable to index each of said plurality of documents stored in said central file system based at least in part on the respective content of said plurality of documents stored in said central file system; and

10 a document management module operable to manage the processing and distribution of said plurality of documents stored in said central file system in response to, at least in part, the respective status of said plurality of documents.

15 2. The transcription management system of claim 1, wherein each of a selected plurality of said plurality of documents comprises a transcribed document.

20 3. The transcription management system of claim 1, further comprising a database for storing information regarding a plurality of recipients.

4. The transcription management system of claim 3, wherein at least one of said plurality of recipients is a physician.

25 5. The transcription management system of claim 3, further comprising a document distribution module operable to distribute at least one of said plurality of documents to at least one of said plurality of recipients based at least in part on a preference of said at least one recipient stored in said database.

30 6. The transcription management system of claim 5, wherein said document distribution module is further operable to recommend to a user a preferred method of distributing said at least one of said plurality of documents to said at least one of said plurality of recipients.

7. The transcription management system of claim 6, wherein said recommendation is based at least in part on information about said at least one of said plurality of recipients stored in said database.

5 8. The transcription management system of claim 1, further comprising a  
billing module operable to generate an invoice for at least one of said plurality of  
documents.

10 9. The transcription management system of claim 8, wherein said invoice  
is generated based at least in part on the number of words in said at least one of said  
plurality of documents.

15 10. The transcription management system of claim 8, wherein said invoice  
is generated based at least in part on the number of lines in said at least one of said  
plurality of documents.

11. The transcription management system of claim 1, wherein said content  
of each of said plurality of documents comprises a predefined pattern.

20 12. The transcription management system of claim 11, wherein said  
predefined pattern comprises a plurality of indexing fields, at least one of said  
plurality of indexing fields having a value associated with it.

25 13. The transcription management system of claim 12, wherein at least one  
of said plurality of indexing fields is selected from the group consisting of a patient  
name, a physician name, a chart number, an MRI date, and an MRI study.

30 14. The transcription management system of claim 1, wherein said  
document management module is further operable to search a folder of said at least  
two folders for documents matching a user specified criteria.

15. The transcription management system of claim 1, wherein at least one of said plurality of documents comprises a transcribed radiology report.

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16. A method for management of transcribed documents, comprising:  
storing a plurality of transcribed documents in a folder of a plurality of folders  
of a central file system;

5 creating a plurality of indexes for content indexing said plurality of transcribed  
documents, each of said plurality of indexes being based at least in part on an  
indexing field;

enabling searching of said plurality of transcribed documents based on said  
plurality of indexes; and

10 automatically recommending to a user a preferred method of distributing a  
transcribed document of said plurality of transcribed documents to a recipient based at  
least in part on a preference of said recipient.

15 17. The method of claim 16, further comprising determining the name of  
said recipient.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein said recipient is a physician.

19. The method of claim 17, further comprising correlating said name of  
said recipient with information about said recipient stored in a physician database.

20 20. The method of claim 16, further comprising:  
reading the contents of said transcribed document to find a pattern in said  
transcribed document, wherein said pattern comprises a plurality of indexing fields, at  
least one of said plurality of indexing fields having a value associated with it; and

25 indexing said transcribed document based on said value of said at least one of  
said plurality of indexing fields.

21. The method of claim 16, further comprising distributing said  
transcribed document to said recipient in response to receiving information from said  
30 user regarding a selected method of distribution.

22. A method for management of transcribed documents, comprising:  
storing a plurality of transcribed documents in a first folder of a plurality of  
folders of a central file system;

5 moving at least one of said plurality of transcribed documents to a second  
folder in said central file system upon receiving approval for said at least one  
transcribed document;

automatically recommending to a user a preferred method of distributing said  
at least one transcribed document to a recipient based at least in part on a preference  
of said recipient; and

10 transmitting said at least one transcribed document to said recipient in  
response to receiving information from said user regarding a selected method of  
distribution.

15 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising generating an invoice for  
said at least one transcribed document.

20 24. The method of claim 22, further comprising generating an invoice for  
said transmitted document based at least in part on the number of words in said at  
least one transcribed document.

25 25. The method of claim 22, further comprising generating an invoice for  
said transmitted document based at least in part on the number of lines in said at least  
one transcribed document.

26. The method of claim 22, further comprising moving said at least one  
transcribed document to a third folder in said central file system after transmission of  
said at least one transcribed document to said recipient.

27. The method of claim 22, wherein said recipient is a physician.